

DANIEL BLACKMAN

(b) (6)

SUMMARY

Daniel Blackman is a respected thought-leader, policymaker, and advocate committed to fighting for environmental justice, climate mitigation, public health, and political education to uplift vulnerable communities.

For over two decades, Daniel has given voice to the unseen, unheard, and unengaged communities left out of the dialogs surrounding the world's biggest challenges.

Professionally, Daniel is an author, lecturer, policy advisor, and community advocate with 20-years of expertise specializing in environmental issues, economic policy, and utility regulation. He served as senior vice president for environmental affairs and sustainability at Capital Fortitude Business Advisors, where he managed client relationships. Daniel has worked with over 100 domestic and international communities and organizations to diversify the climate movement.

Politically, Daniel Blackman was the 2020 democratic nominee for the Georgia Public Service Commission where he garnered more votes than any African American in Georgia history. In 2016, he became the first person of color to run for office in Forsyth County, Georgia, and the first Democrat to run there in 30 years. He served with the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan and Power Africa Initiative, and served as an advisor to the Congressional Black Caucus and EPA on Environmental Justice issues. Daniel Blackman was one of 65 world leaders invited to Vatican City to discuss the global impact of the climate crisis ahead of the Paris Climate Accords.

Daniel has been a guest lecturer at The United States Institute of Peace, Netroots Nation, Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Tuskegee University, George Washington University, Howard University, Spelman College, and the University of Georgia.

Daniel Blackman has been featured on TV and radio including CNN, NPR, CBS Radio, CBS, Apple TV, PBS, and several podcasts and morning shows. Mr. Blackman has been featured in news publications including Grist, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Huffington Post, The Washington Post, Forbes, Slate, Rolling Out, and is a contributor for Forsyth County News.

Daniel is a board Member of the ACLU of Georgia and an alum of Clark Atlanta University.

CURRICULUM VITAE

DANIEL ALEXANDER BLACKMAN

MOST RECENT POSITION

GEORGIA DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, STATEWIDE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE | 2020 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

- 1 of 3 Georgia Democrats to make it to the January 5, 2021 Georgia Runoff Election with U.S. Senators Elect Jon Ossoff and Reverend Raphael Warnock.
- Daniel Blackman is the largest vote getter of any African American candidate in Georgia Election History. | **Barack Obama** Georgia Presidential Election Results (**2008**) 1,844,123 votes (**2012**) 1,773,827 votes | **Stacey Abrams** Gubernatorial Election (**2018**) 1,923,685 votes | **Reverend Raphael Warnock** United States Senate Special Election (**2020**) 1,617,035 votes (**2021**) 2,260,290 votes | **Daniel Blackman** Public Service Commission Election (**2020**) 2,272,969 votes.
- Daniel ran on a platform of Lowering Utility Rates, Expanding Wireless Broadband, Strengthening Federal Energy Assistance Funding, Expanding Solar Opportunities, and Creating a Covid-19 Relief Stakeholders Commission to assist in extending utility assistance throughout the pandemic.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

SENIOR VP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND SUSTAINABILITY, CAPITAL FORTITUDE BUSINESS ADVISORS. | 2018 - 2019 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

Daniel advised senior leadership on client relationships which included business and political leaders, religious leaders, government allies of the U.S., corporate social responsibility, intergovernmental affairs, and a variety of public affairs organizations.

- Advised senior leadership on strategy related to access to capital, supplier diversity programming, Opportunity Zone Funding and legislative readiness.
- Advised on areas related to corporate, government, non-profit, and sport entertainment business sectors.

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT | 2017-2018 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA

As an Independent Consultant, Daniel worked with individuals and organizations on project management from Strategy to Execution.

- Served as a lead consultant to Netroots Nation Atlanta Conference. Served as a liaison between leadership team, grassroots leaders, and media partners. Worked to onboard civic organizations, labor unions, and interfaith groups to create engaging panels, training sessions, keynotes and coordinated events.
- Worked directly with 27 North Georgia Counties to organize and build coalitions ahead of Georgia's 2018 election cycle. In this capacity, Daniel worked directly with County Party Chairs to build infrastructure for GOTV efforts, worked on voter engagement to organize emerging leaders on college campuses, and built coalitions in areas that were Republican leaning to recruit Democratic candidates to run for office.
- Wrote the book, Nationalism without Compassion, which examines Nationalism in the new American century. Published in 2019, the book empowers readers to embrace a larger moral compass within the United States leading up to the 2020 presidential election.

POLITICAL DIRECTOR AND ADVISOR, U.S. SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS CAMPAIGN | 2016 | GEORGIA

Daniel Blackman used his expertise in government affairs, electoral campaigns, issue advocacy, community organizing, and capacity building to be effective in his role to expand the electorate in Georgia. Key areas of

experience included: Electoral Campaigns, Policy Development and Analysis, Community Engagement and Outreach, Political Communication, and Direct Voter Engagement.

- Worked with constituency groups to organize their involvement within the Sanders campaign. This included Democratic elected officials, labor, seniors, educators, veterans, communities of color, new Americans, environmentalists, and college students.
- Daniel Blackman developed and executed a voter contact plan in coordination with the state director and field director for particular communities by building relationships with the existing organizations that represent these communities, as well as the elected officials representing those districts.

POLICY ADVOCATE, ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP | 2015 | WASHINGTON D.C.

Daniel Blackman served as EWG's **SENIOR POLICY ADVOCATE** to lobby against policy that harmed the environment or weakened environmental protections. Specifically, Daniel worked to oppose the "Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act," and to promote legislation that developed and implemented federal policy strategies that advance EWG's mission to empower healthier lives in a healthier environment.

- In this capacity, specific responsibilities included: a keen understanding of federal environmental law and regulations, strong professional relationships with policymakers within federal agencies, and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies.
- The position required experience with federal policymaking that addressed risks posed by harmful chemicals, pollutants and contaminants.
- Daniel's key responsibility was to lobby against the bill by then Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-Kan.) The Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act, which blocked states from requiring labeling on genetically modified food, and hampered U.S. Food and Drug Administration efforts to mandate labeling nationwide.

PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER, SOCIAL KARMA, LLC | 2011 – 2015 | GEORGIA

As an independent communications specialist, Daniel worked to provide private consultancy, idea initiatives and business/relationship facilitates and support leaders, corporations and organizations in building their influence both foreign and domestic, catalyze innovation and effective exchange of ideas and solutions that have a sustained impact on the world.

- **PRIVATE CONSULTING** Daniel worked closely and discreetly with leaders to develop strategic communication programs that positioned and expanded their global reach and influence, and managed their brands and reputations in order to increase efficiently with leaders, corporate partners and organizations, including faith-based organizations.
- **IDEA INITIATIVES** Daniel worked with clients to develop and execute programs that innovatively catalyze their agenda. Daniel has always focused on bringing a business lens to the multicultural conversation. He used his experience in Diversity and Inclusion to highlight executives of color in business and provide forums to bring together leaders to discuss diverse perspectives about industry challenges and opportunities.
- **BUSINESS/RELATIONSHIP FACILITATION** (Strategic Relationship Management) Daniel has proven experience in developing an excellent relationship management system. He has taken a holistic approach to addressing diversity in public and private sectors, by immersing clients in a customized approach to Diversity Awareness and Skills Training. Beyond training, Daniel regularly advised organizational and corporate leaders on diversity practice as it relates more expansively to "diversity" in a global context.

EMC DIVERSITY ORGANIZER, SOUTHERN ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY | 2010 – 2011 | ATLANTA, GA

The work included implementing field and diversity outreach strategies among African-American communities (to include faith-based constituencies) in the south Atlanta metro region served by electric providers Snapping Shoals EMC and Central Georgia EMC. Through a series of forums addressing public health issues, fiscal irresponsibility, and investing into renewable energy, I am responsible to educate clergy, intergovernmental agencies, elected-officials, community leaders, and the general public while making them aware of sustainable alternatives for the future of our State. Additionally, I develop and direct grassroots advocacy against electric membership corporations (EMCs) to encourage EMCs to pull out of a coalition proposing two new coal-fired power plants in the State of Georgia, based on a message that the burdens of burning coal fall disproportionately on people of color.

- Create campaign outreach materials tailored to minority communities
- Worked with state legislators to craft and implement policies related to utility regulation.
- Identify and maintain relations with leaders of color, as well as other community, business and health leaders interested in health effects of coal & benefits of energy efficiency, and willing to engage in the campaign
- Recruit volunteers to write letters to the editor (resulting in published articles)
- Organize media events featuring minority leaders speaking out on the need for smart energy choices that don't disproportionately affect minority communities in Georgia.
- Facilitate strategic media campaigns
- Set up meetings between EMC board members and African American community leaders, to convey concerns about new

OUTREACH SPECIALIST, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION | 2006 – 2010 | ATLANTA, GA

Coordinated and directed staff in the development of press releases, public relations activities, external communications and events aimed at improving environmental awareness within diverse and disproportionately affected communities. Performed market research and analysis and built partner relationships, coalitions and promotional strategies between political groups, non-profit and grass-roots organizations, corporate executives, and college campuses. Coordinated and conducted presentations, public announcements, and speeches as an independent consultant while serving in the capacity of liaison for the organization. Developed, prepared, and implemented a comprehensive communications and outreach program.

- Under the leadership of former Chairman Jerome Ringo, Daniel worked to increase minority participation, engage college students, and establish stronger civic partnerships and coalitions that raised awareness and participation.

MARKETING DIRECTOR, VISUAL MARKETING INTERNATIONAL | 2004 – 2009 | ATLANTA, GA

Advised senior officials on various public affairs, media and relations initiatives and provided both administrative and clerical support to ongoing public affairs programs. Prepared articles and supporting graphics, planed layout, organized material, and coordinated with production facilities for the publishing of publications. Provided photographic support for public affairs events and slide presentations and provided photojournalism feature stories for the district newspaper. Researched, organized and wrote news and feature articles for the newspaper, information pamphlets, bulletins, brochures. Maintained responsibility for project management involving the firm's

marketing clientele deploying aggressive integrated marketing communications through combining internet/new media, traditional techniques, coalition building, direct mail and public relations campaigns.

SENIOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR, NATIONAL YOUTH CONNECTION | 2001 – 2003 | ATLANTA, GA

Developed standard methods and procedures for managing projects & funds, issues design & construction directives & develops/submits budgets for design/construction funds. Conducted visits to the field to provide onsite guidance & resolve problems. Analyzed situations, recommended solutions, and followed---up on items that may impact readiness, retention or relations between the various family components of the Family Readiness Program. Identified the need for, initiated, and designed education and training for youth family members, unit representatives, and volunteers. Performed assignments designed to provide familiarity with the various Family Programs; to advance effective relations with family members, volunteers, supporting social services and emergency organizations; and to support the development of human resources program referral networks on multiple installations impacting subordinate commands.

EDUCATION

- **Clark Atlanta University Alum**, Atlanta GA - (1997 – 2001) International Business (Concentration: Finance)
- **Shaw High School**, Columbus GA - (1997)
- **Walt Disney World College Program**, Orlando FL - (1998)
- **Herzing College**, Atlanta GA - (2006) Criminal Justice (Concentration: Homeland Security)
- **National Incident Management Systems (NIMS Training Program)**, *Certified (2006)* The *NIMS Training Program* is a standardized approach to incident management developed by the Department of Homeland Security. The program is intended to facilitate coordination between all responders (including all levels of government with public, private, and nongovernmental organizations).

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY

Detailed oriented marketer with superior analytical skills, exceptional business acumen emphasizing thorough research analysis, decision-making, and follow-through. Intelligent and adaptable; defines parameters, identifies resources and implements practical solutions under time-critical conditions.

COMMUNICATION

Excellent written and verbal communication skills with ability to creatively and persuasively relate new concepts and ideas to diverse markets. Exceptional ability in the areas of public/motivational speaking, delivering presentations, and community engagement.

MARKETING EXPERTISE

Collateral Design, Event Promotion & Management, Branding and Value Proposition Development, Interactive Media, Marketing Strategy and Planning, Marketing Research, Direct Mail Campaigns, E---Mail Campaigns, Integrated Marketing Communications, Business Partnership Development, B2B / B2C Marketing, Database Marketing, Copy Writing, Public Relations, New Business Development, Community---Building & Customer Loyalty Strategies.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Microsoft Office: Word, Access, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher. HTML (web development). Adobe: Photoshop, Illustrator. Business Plan Pro & Marketing Plan Pro. Well versed in data management, data entry, and internet research. Able to quickly adapt to new software environments.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & APPOINTMENTS

(2016-2019) CALLANWOLDE FINE ARTS CENTER

Board Member

Callanwolde Fine Arts Center is a 501 non-profit community arts center that offers classes and workshops for all ages in visual, literary and performing arts. Special performances, gallery exhibits, outreach programs and fundraising galas are presented throughout the year.

(2012-2013) 75TH ANNIVERSARY NCAA FINAL FOUR MEN'S BASKETBALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Member – Community Engagement

Assisted with service-learning projects for youth that provided a fun and educational platform to positively impact their community. This initiative addressed local community needs through service-learning projects that were relevant, long-term and meaningful to both volunteers and people who are being served.

(2011 – 2012) U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL - GEORGIA CHAPTER

Chair - Speakers Bureau, National Diversity Committee

The U.S. Green Building Council is a 501(c)(3) non--profit community of leaders working to make green buildings available to everyone within a generation

(2011 – 2012) L.E.A.D. ATLANTA CLASS OF 2012

Participant

Lead Atlanta is an intensive nine-month leadership development and community education program targeted at promising young professionals which aims to equip young leaders early in their careers with the skills and knowledge needed to be an effective leader committed to the common good.

(2011 – 2012) INSTITUTE FOR GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP (IGEL)

Participant

The Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL) is a leadership program dedicated to building and sustaining a diverse network of environmentally educated leaders who will help resolve Georgia's environmental challenges.

(2011) YOUTH VIBE

Board Member

Youth V.I.B.E., is a United Way Community Partner which provides free academic enrichment in math, science and reading in the Metropolitan Atlanta Region. The program continues to provide teens with interactive components to business mentoring including guest speakers and corporate tours

(2011) BOREHOLES (BRIDGING THE WATER GAP PROGRAM)

Co-Chair

BOREHOLES Bridging the Water Gap Program initiative is designed to positively impact the quality of life for young women by building sustainable water systems in schools and health care centers. The objective of this initiative is to build borehole water systems that will include separate latrines for boys and girls, and equipped with hand washing facilities. With a focus on the West African Region.

(2010) OUTSTANDING ATLANTA

2010 Honoree

Outstanding Atlanta is an organization formed to recognize outstanding young people of Atlanta for their contributions to the betterment of the city. Each year, 10 young leaders of Atlanta would be cited for their roles in business, civic and cultural fields.

(2010 – 2016) OVIE MUGHELLI FOUNDATION

Board Member

The Ovie Mughelli Foundation is an organization that supports the overall development of youth socially, mentally and physically by implementing and assisting quality programs that educate the youth on the environment in order to empower the youth to take ownership and pride about their lives and the roles that they play in society.

(2009 – 2010) GEORGIA CONSERVANCY - GENERATION GREEN

Board Member

Generation Green, a program of the Georgia Conservancy, creates an exciting and inclusive opportunity for the next generation of environmental leaders to protect and enjoy Georgia's environment through educational opportunities, social events and service projects.

PAST MEMBERSHIPS / APPOINTMENTS

Project Understanding Alum, American Jewish Committee Atlanta Chapter (2009)

Steering Committee Member, Twenty---First Century Foundation's "BRING YOUR 'A' GAME" Initiative (2008-2009)

Appointment by Chief Justice Sears, Georgia Supreme Court Commission on Children, Marriage and Family Law (2006-2010)

Board Advisor National Wildlife Federation Committee: Climate Change Impact on Urban Communities and Minorities (2006-2008)

Steering Committee Member, Essence Magazine Inaugural National Mentoring Campaign Atlanta Cares (2006)

*Steering Committee Martin Luther King, Jr. Africa/African American Renaissance Committee, Inc. *Youth Advocacy, *Human Rights, *Workers' Rights and *Peace & Justice Committees* (2003-2008)

Board Member Atlanta Business League (2002-2004)

Appointment by Georgia Secretary of State Cathy Cox, Georgia Student Advisory Committee (2002)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Leadership Forsyth (2020)

- Georgia WAND, Ed Arnold Environmental Justice Award (2019)
- King Center Environmental Justice Leader Award (2018)
- LEAD Atlanta (2012)
- Outstanding Atlanta Award Recipient Award (2010)
- Certificate of Appreciation from Community Council of Metropolitan Atlanta Inc. (2010)
- Project Understanding Alum American Jewish Committee Atlanta Chapter (2009)
- Earl T. Shinhoster Award, presented by Rev. James Orange, chair of the Africa/African American Renaissance Festival (2007)
- Featured in 2003 Edition of Who's Who in Black Atlanta (2003)
- America's 40 Under 40 Environmental Voices

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- Book Tour "Nationalism Without Compassion" (2019)
- CNN International (2019)
- Turner Black Professionals / Warner Media (2019)
- Martin Luther King Holiday Observance Atlanta, Georgia (2018)
- Emory University NAACP Chapter (2017)
- Clark Atlanta University (2016)
- Emerging Leaders Multi-Faith Climate Convergence Rome, Italy (2015)
- Ebenezer Baptist Church: Criminal Justice Reform Community Meeting (2014)
- NAACP Conference Georgia (2014)
- UNCF Greening Minority Campuses Initiative – Washington DC (2011) Tuskegee University – Tuskegee, AL (2011)
- AASHE – Atlanta, GA (2011)
- Usher's New Look Foundation – Atlanta, GA (2010)
- 2010 Green Initiatives Conference & Expo --- Atlanta, GA (2010)
- American Association of Blacks in Energy/Georgia Power Meeting (2010)
- American Association of Blacks in Energy 33rd National Conference in Columbus, Ohio (2010) Bill Duke Actors Boot Camp in Hollywood California (2009)
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. Annual Legislative Conference (2007) NAACP Annual Youth Summit (2002)
- *Lectured or spoke at several Georgia colleges and universities including: Morehouse College, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Georgia, Fort Valley State University, Emory University, Oglethorpe University, and Atlanta Technical College.*

SERVICES FOR HIRE

CONSULTING:

Non-Profit Organization Tax Status and Political Action

Campaign Development, Strategy and Implementation

NGO Operation (Management, Organization, Fundraising)

Environmental Justice/Equity

Environmental Program & Issue Analysis (Strategic Planning)

Environmental Politics

Intergeneration & Cross-Culture Communication

Global Environmental Leadership

Sustainable Infrastructure & Agriculture

Corporate Social Responsibility & Citizenship

Interfaith Stewardship: Creation Care

Global Environmental Security

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Environmental Justice/Equity

Interfaith Stewardship: Creation Care

Energy/Environmental Regulation & Policy

Corporate Social Responsibility & Citizenship

Sustainable Infrastructure & Agriculture

Global Environmental Security

REFERENCES

- Hank Johnson, Congressman | 4th Congressional District
- Meredith Lilly | State Director for Senator Raphael Warnock
- Jim Powell, Energy Policy Advisor
- Rutherford Seydel, Partner | Davis, Pickren, Seydel
- Gwen Keyes Fleming, *former* Region IV Administer EPA
- Michael Blake, *former* Vice Chair Democratic National Committee
- Mustafa Santiago Ali, *former* Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice EPA
- Billy Mitchell, Georgia State Representative
- Carolyn Bordeaux, Congresswoman | 7th Congressional District
- Tharon Johnson, *Founder* Paramount Consulting Group
- Retired Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears, *Retired Chief Justice* | *Attorney* Schiff Hardin, LLP (Atlanta)
- Dr. Gerald L. Durley, *former* Pastor | Providence Missionary Baptist Church (Atlanta)
- Col. David T. Bullock, *Retired Colonel* --- U.S. Army
- Laura Turner Seydel, *Chairman* --- Captain Planet Foundation

****Contact information available upon request***

PERSONAL

Name: *Daniel Alexander Blackman*

Nationality: *American*

Date & place of birth: *July 16, 1979 (Boston, Massachusetts)*

Spouse: *Jeanelle Blackman*

Children: *Anias Blackman; Zion Blackman; Micah Blackman*

INTERESTING FACTS

- His Father was a retired United States Army Ranger (75th Ranger Regiment), and his father-in-law retired from the Pentagon as a Colonel with the United States Army.
- His Grandfather Represented Barbados as a diplomat to the United Nations and Consulate General of Barbados in New York.
- At 21 years old, Daniel became the youngest board member in the history of the Atlanta Business League.

- In 2014, Daniel ran for office to serve on the Georgia Public Service Commission, a public utilities commission, which regulates telecommunications, transportation, electric and natural gas services. Although unelected, Daniel acquired 1.1 million votes, a mere 800 votes less than the candidate for the United States Senate.
- In 2016 Daniel ran for Georgia Senate in Forsyth County become the first person of color to run for office and the first democrat in 30 years.
- In 2020 Daniel ran for Georgia Public Service Commission a second time garnering more votes than any other African American in Georgia history.

CORRESPONDENCE

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WEBSITES

<http://www.danielforgeorgia.com>

<http://www.danielblackman.com>

SOCIAL MEDIA

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/houseofblackman](https://www.linkedin.com/in/houseofblackman)

Facebook: [facebook.com/houseofblackman](https://www.facebook.com/houseofblackman)

Twitter: @BlackmanDNA

WHAT OTHERS SAY

- *"As the Chairman of the Captain Planet Foundation and Co---founder of Mothers & Others for Clean Air, I work closely with many of the community leaders around stewardship and health as it relates to the environment; and I consider Daniel Blackman to be one of the most studious and responsible supporters of our organization throughout the Metropolitan Atlanta Region...[and] in my opinion, Daniel's unwavering devotion to his community exemplifies strong moral fiber and character, which will afford him the opportunity to possibly serve as an elected official. He is a trustworthy individual and would be an excellent candidate to represent the United States."*—Laura Turner Seydel
- Jerome C. Ringo, in his speech at the 2008 Keeping it Wild Annual Gala, described Daniel as the *"Daniel has the presence of a "Senator Barack Obama" in the sustainability movement in Georgia; he has the ear of the young people and the decision--- makers."*
- *Mr. Blackman of Social Karma promoted the work that was already being done in the local community and helped to connect the UNCF's efforts to larger movement of healthy and sustainable communities. — Second Nature*
- Keeping it Wild Foundation ranks Daniel *"among the youngest and most culturally---relevant environmentalists."*
- *"... while Daniel was campaigning to serve on the Georgia Public Service Commission, he showed me his ability to speak to the needs of the underrepresented, displaced, and under---served. He is a rising environmental voice in the United States, and I hope to one day see him go as high and as far as his God*

given abilities will take him socially and politically; but more importantly as a husband, father, and friend..." —Reverend Gerald Durley, Providence Missionary Baptist Church

- *"Mr. Blackman is an invaluable asset to the community and especially the lives of our young men facing society's most harsh realities..."* ---Norma Joy Barnes (Executive Director, Community Council of Metropolitan Atlanta)
- Pastor Darrell D. Elligan of The Truelight Baptist Church referred to Daniel as a *"statesman"*, and a *"rising-star"* amongst the region's environmental leaders.
- *"As the first African---American female Chief Justice in the United States, I understand the importance of investing into future generations and having a clear perspective of Global issues as they relate to the our decisions as responsible, just, and ethical citizens...I believe Daniel exhibits many of the qualities that are essential as a representative of the United States and as a credible emerging leader from the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia."* ---Chief Justice Leah Sears, Retired Georgia Supreme Court Justice